

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment which includes a copy of U.S.

A check in the amount of \$328.00 is enclosed to cover the fee for filing additional 3 claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-1030. A duplidate copy of the sheet is enclosed.

Dated: \$328.00 CR

07/21/1998 TLUU11 00000032 08908265

01 FC:102

328.00 DP

Atty. Docket: HARI.026US3

Respectfully submitted,

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In re Patent Application of Group Art Unit: 2786 DANIEL L. AUCLAIR et al. Serial No.: 08/908,265 San Francisco, California Filed: August 7, 1997 SOFT ERRORS HANDLING IN For: **EEPROM DEVICES** Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-identified application by adding the following

--35. A memory device comprising:

a plurality of memory cells, each of which is readable by application of a read voltage;

and

new claims:

means for determining a likelihood that the memory device has a degraded state by applying each of a plurality of read voltages to a terminal of a first cell of the plurality of memory cells to generate a plurality of read results.

The memory device of claim 35, wherein a group of the plurality of memory cells are arranged in a row that includes the cell, the memory device further comprising means for rewriting a previously stored value into each of the group of memory cells when the means for determining determines that the first cell has a degraded state.

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